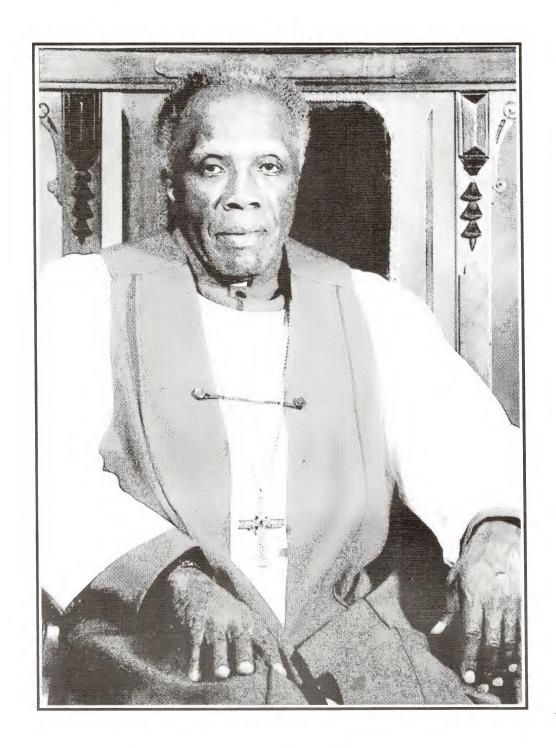


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The Most Reverend Ithiel Conrad Clemmons

Member of the General Board (Presidium) of the Church of God in Christ Bishop of First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Eastern New York Chairs, The Integrated Body of the Pentecostal-Charismatic Churches of North America (PCCNA) Pastor and Bishop of First Church, Church of God in Christ Pastor of COGIC Cathedral - Home of Wells Memorial

1921 - 1999

Memorial Service

for

The Most Reverend Ithiel Conrad Clemmons

Member of the General Board (Presidium) of the Church of God in Christ Pastor of COGIC Cathedral - Home of Wells Memorial

> Wednesday, the Thirteenth day of January Nineteen Hundred, Ninety-Nine Anno Domini

> > Twelve O'Clock Noon

COGIC Cathedral - Home of Wells Memorial 1001 East Washington Street Greensboro, North Carolina 27401

Officiants

The Right Reverend Leroy J. Woolard
Presiding Jurisdictional Bishop

with

Superintendent Patrick L. Wooden Administrative Assistant To The Bishop

Elder George R. East
Assistant Pastor of COGIC Cathedral - Home of Wells Memorial

The Obituary

The Broken Vessel

THE ABIDING TREASURE

"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us"

2 Corinthians 4:7

Bishop Ithiel Conrad Clemmons

Seldom in human history does a man or woman rise to the pinnacle of achievement in so many areas of life, as did Bishop Ithiel Conrad Clemmons. The Legacy left by his life represents an **abiding treasure**.

The earthen vessel that housed his life began with his birth, December 2, 1921, as the third of seven children (the two eldest died in childhood), the offspring of Bishop Frank and Pauline Clemmons, in Washington, North Carolina. The vessel would be **irreparably broken** with his death, Saturday, January 9, 1999.

In the 77 years between his birth and his death, Bishop Ithiel Clemmons took in to himself not with selfish motivation, but in order to pour out to others. He excelled in both and was a model of focus and determination to others.

In his preparation for life and ministry, Bishop Clemmons "took in" in a number of ways:

♦ Educationally:

Master of Arts in Education; City College of New York – 1952 Master of Divinity; Union Theological Seminary, N.Y.C.- 1956 D.Min.; New York Theological Seminary

Doctor of Divinity; Interdenominational Theological Center- 1991

♦ Personally:

He availed himself of many opportunities to hone his skills and improve his talents in order to make his life more productive and effective.

In the Relationships that enriched his life. He was first married in 1953 to Alyce Wilmer Thompson who died, January, 1968 leaving three beautiful daughters to be raised: Pamela Marie, Constance Pauline and Debra Ann. Bishop did some serious praying that God would fill this relational void in his life and that of his three young girls. God honored his faithfulness and answered his prayers. In June 1969 God gifted him with the former Clara Cantrell of Harvey, Illinois. In addition to raising the three girls, all of whom have finished college, for almost 30 years she was Bishop Clemmons' constant companion, partner and "soul mate." Bishop often referred to Sister Clara as "my best friend."

In Anointings and Consecrations for greater service:

- May, 1975 Bishop of the Armed Forces
- July, 1988 of Eastern N.Y. First Jurisdiction (following the death of Bishop F.D. Washington in December of 1987).
- November, 1991 elected to General Board

♦ Spiritually:

At age 5 in Washington, N.C. little Ithiel was being called "the preacher." He accepted Christ at an early age and committed himself to the church and its ministries. Bishop cherished the mentors along the way with whom he established lasting relations and fr om whose wisdom insight and love he drank so freely. Noted among them was Bishop C.H. Mason himself our Founder. Not only did he talk many times with Bishop Mason, but was prayed for and anointed by him. On one occasion in Baltimore, Bishop Mason put young Elder Clemmons up to preach in his stead. Of course, there were countless others too numerous to name who poured into him, including the late Bishops S.M. Crouch, O.M. Kelly, F.D. Washington, O.T. Jones, Sr. and the present Bishop O.T. Jones, Jr.

Not only did Bishop take in educationally, personally and spiritually, he also poured out in service and ministry to others--his family, local congregations, "lost" men and women, the National and wider church and the world.

♦ Family

Bishop poured out his love to his wife Clara and his three daughters, Pam, Connie and Debbie. They were loved by him. He made sure they knew it. He rejoiced in knowing they were all saved, in the church and had finished college.

♦ Local Congregations:

Bishop also poured out to the congregations he shepherded. Not only did he and his family sacrifice financially, always putting the needs of the church first, but, like the Apostle Paul, was "Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus." Proclaiming with him, "For all things are for your sakes."

- Gethsemane COGIC, Clairton, PA, 1955-1967. He enlarged the sanctuary and built an education wing.
- First COGIC, Brooklyn, N.Y. co-pastor 1966 to 1988 when he became the pastor. Through the vision of Bishop Frank Clemmons and continued through Bishop Ithiel Clemmons the 1500-seat Jewish Temple was acquired. It contained a full gymnasium, classrooms, banquet hall, three kitchens, marble foyers and much more.
- Wells Memorial, Greensboro, N.C., 1975 to present. Under his leadership, 3 1/2 acres were purchased in University Center and COGIC Cathedral was built in 1985 at a cost of 1.2 million dollars.

♦ The Lost Men & Women:

The ministry of Bishop Ithiel Clemmons greatly impacted the lives of thousands around the country who came to know Jesus in the pardon of their sins. Highlighted are six men who were saved and are now pastoring churches and one who has become a Jurisdictional Prelate.

- Elder Richard Brown of Cleveland, OH
- Elder George Ford of Cleveland, OH
- Elder Louis Jacobs of Uniontown, PA
- Elder Selby Jones of Clairton, PA
- Elder George East, who has loyally served Bishop Clemmons from his pastorate in Clairton to COGIC Cathedral. He is so loved by all the church family for his prayer and preaching ministry.
- Bishop James Foster, now the Prelate of Western PA

◆ The National Church:

Out of a selfless vessel was poured time, energy and resources in the service of the church that he loved and the only church he knew. He served faithfully to the end.

- 1968-1992 National Prayer Leader
- 1978-1998 Women's Convention Morning Preacher
- 1986 Founded National Prayer Clinic
- Jurisdictional Prelate of Eastern N.Y. First Jurisdiction with nearly 100 churches
- General Board Member
- Church Historian, Writer, Author

♦ The Wider Church & The World

- Pentecostal Charismatic Churches of North America (PCCNA) Past President and member of executive committee
- North America Renewal Service Committee Member of Planning Committee
- Council of Churches of the City of New York
- Preaching missions to Europe, Africa and the Caribbean
- Advisor to President Bill Clinton along with other clergy on matters of religious affairs
- 1998 Bishop Clemmons along with his wife donated \$10,000.00 to North Carolina A&T State University for an Endowment Fund in the name of Clara Cantrell Clemmons. A fund to which Religion and Education majors may apply.

It might be rightfully asked, how could so much be poured from one vessel? Some grit their teeth, keep a stiff upper lip and by the shear force of their will serve their generation. Not so, Bishop Ithiel Clemmons. He recognized that the source of his strength lay not in himself but in the transcendent power of God that was made perfect in his weakness.

Bishop Ithiel Conrad Clemmons was loved by all whose life he touched. He will be missed by many. In particular, he leaves to rejoice in his memory, a devoted wife, Mother Clara Clemmons, three daughters, Pamela Rosborough, her husband, Samuel, and their four children, Samona, Miriam, Jonathan and Timothy; Constance Benton, her husband, Tyrone and their son Joshua; and the youngest daughter, Debra Clemmons; two brothers, Maxwell P. Clemmons, Sr. and his two children, Maxwell, Jr. and attorney Patience Clemmons; Dr. Joseph Clemmons Sr., his wife Fran Collier Clemmons and their two children, Joseph, Jr. and his wife, Kyla and their children; Angela Clemmons Patrick and her husband Kevin, and their children; two children of the late James Clemmons, Renee and Maxine Clemmons; a brother-in-law, Cleveland Little; a sister-in-law, Mother Etta Cantrell; a niece, Thayer Baker, and James Carter who served Bishop as would a son. Rejoicing also in his memory are other nieces, cousins, his church families, friends and the household of faith.

The vessel may be broken, the treasure yet abides.

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm, free I'm following the path God laid for me, I took his hand when I heard him call I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play,
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that place at the close of the day.

If my parting has left a void Then fill it with remembered joy, A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss Ah yes, these things, I too, will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,

I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow,

My life's been full, savored much,

Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief; Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your heart and share with me God wanted me now, he set me free.

Author Unknown

The Family

Order of Homegoing Celebration

Wednesday, January 13, 1999 12:00 Noon

Presiding

Superintendent Patrick L. Wooden Administrative Assistant To The Bishop

and

Elder George R. East Assistant Pastor, COGIC Cathedral - Home of Wells Memorial

+ Where indicated, please stand.

ORGAN PRELUDE

THE PROCESSIONAL

The Jurisdictional Bishop The Board of Superintendents The Jurisdictional Executive Secretary The Board of Elders

The Family

HE SEALING OF THE BIEK	
- THE HYMN OF COMFORT	
"Amazing	
+ THE INVOCATION	Elder James Woodson St. James Home of Fresh Start Greensboro, North Carolina
THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE.	Superintendent Tommy LeGrand Prayer and Mission District Hamlet, North Carolina

THE SOLO Isreat is they faith field Evangelist Andrea Jackson

THE NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE......Superintendent J. J. Williams

Wave of Glory Church of God in Christ

I Corinthians 15:50-58

Administrative Assistant Fayetteville, North Carolina

Rockville, Maryland

+ THE STATEMENT OF FAITH......Elder Paul Scott, Sr.

COGIC Cathedral

Greensboro, North Carolina

We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible written Word of God.

We believe that there is One God: Eternally existent in Three Persons; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

We believe in the Blessed Hope, which is the rapture of the Church of God, which is in Christ, at His return.

We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance, faith in the precious Blood of Jesus Christ and accepting the gospel according to Romans 10: 9, 10.

We believe that regeneration by the Holy Ghost is absolutely essential for personal salvation.

We believe that the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it.

We believe in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling, the Christian is enabled to live a holy and separated life in this present world. Amen.

THE ANTHEM......State Choir, Greater North Carolina Jurisdiction

Elder George R. East, Presiding

THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS

THE SELECTION......State Choir, Greater North Carolina Jurisdiction

TRIBUTES

Jurisdictional Supervisor, Department of Women, Greater North Carolina Alternate: Mother Barbara G. Payne, Assistant Jurisdictional Supervisor

Jurisdictional Council of Elders Chairman of Board of Superintendents Administrative Assistants	Superintendent Emanuel WhiteSuperintendent Charles McMurry
THE SELECTION	
Resolution from Greater North Carolina Jurisdiction Executive S	
Resolution from the Local Church	District Missionary Goldie Wells High Point District
Acknowledgments of Cards and Telegrams Executive S	Superintendent B. E. McNeill Secretary, Greater North Carolina Jurisdiction
Special TributeGreater North Carolina Jurisdiction	Superintendent C. W. Johnson Jr. Secretary, Superintendent Board
OBITUARY SILENTLY I	READ
INTRODUCTION OF JURISDICTIONAL BISHOP	Superintendent Donnie Jones Administrative Assistant to Bishop Rocky Mount, North Carolina
THE SERMONIC SOLO	Sister Yvonne Smith Minister of Music Greater North Carolina Jurisdiction
THE EULOGY	Jurisdictional Bishop, Greater North Carolina Greenville, North Carolina

+ THE RECESSIONAL



High Point District

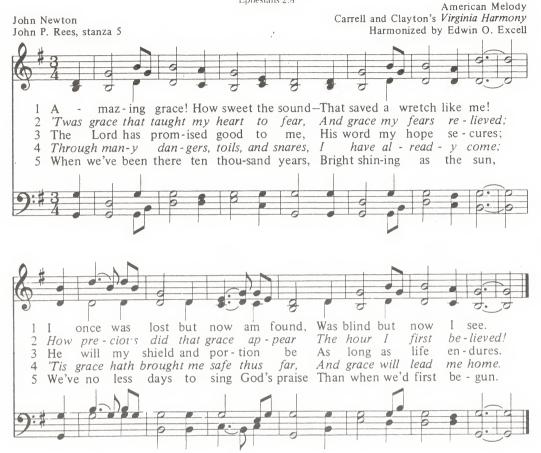
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

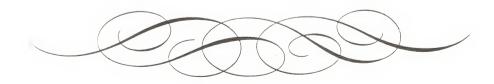
Services will be continued in Eastern New York Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Number One, Thursday, January 14, 1999 at 7:00 PM; followed with the National Services, Friday, January 15, 1999 at High Noon. Bishop Chandler David Owens, Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. will be presiding.

Amazing Grace

For by grace are ye saved through faith

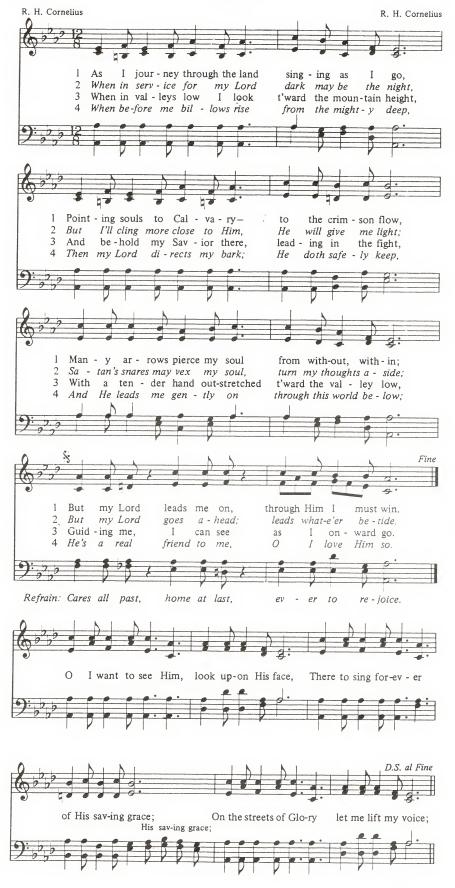
Ephesians 2:8





O I Want to See Him

I will behold thy face in righteousness. Psalm 17:15



Honorary Pallbearers

Deacon Leroy Williams

Deacon Ervin Goolsby

Deacon Leon Byrd

Brother Merland Echols

Elder Samuel Grippie

Minister Dock Kelly III

Deacon Percy Lawson

Deacon Robert Lawson

Deacon Luicoe Wilson

Elder Nathaniel Wright

Active Pallbearers

Elder Marshall Newsome

Deacon Vernal Alford

Deacon Jesse Allen

Brother Roderick Dockery

Deacon Forise Epps

Deacon Brenden Hargett





Acknowledgment

The family of the late

Bishop Ithiel Conrad Clemmons

wishes to express their thanks for

every act of kindness expressed

during this their time of loss.









Interment

Pinelawn Memorial Park Pinelawn, New York

Final arrangements entrusted to:

Matthew R. S. Barrett - Saunders Funeral Home, Inc. New York, New York

> **Hargett Funeral Home** Greensboro, North Carolina



